

# THE YEAR THAT LIES BEFORE

IT IS TIME TO START AGAIN,  
THE TIME TO ALL-TAKE HEART AGAIN,  
THE TIME TO DO YOUR PART AGAIN,  
THE PART YOU HAVE BEEN SHIRKING.



THE year that lies before is ever the year of opportunity. The year 1914, on whose threshold we now stand, contains greater possibilities of individual growth and national prosperity than any previous year ever promised. Individual effort is encouraged by conditions inspiring confidence in results, and the nation finds incentive in its own achievements and natural blessings to misuse which would constitute a national crime. If the individual and the nation are guided by the experiences of the past as they should be, the new year will be marked by progress and prosperity such as they have never before enjoyed.

At the very outset it should be borne in mind that the individual is the fountain source of national progress and prosperity. The spring feeds the stream, streams unite to form rivers, and mighty rivers replenish the evaporating oceans. Let the spring fail, the stream dries up, the river falls, and the ocean sinks below its natural level. So the individual, even the humblest, must continue his contribution to the rising tide of prosperity. If he would draw from that prosperity for his personal needs, just as the spring draws from the ocean through the condensation of its evaporated waters—the rain that waters the land. The element of personal responsibility cannot be discounted without endangering the welfare of all—neither by the individual himself, nor by society. A proper sense of responsibility compels seizure upon every opportunity within reach.

If there has been one idea more mischievous than another, as regards individual activity, it has been the one embodied in the oft-repeated phrase, "The world owes me a living." It does if one earns it, but the world has nothing to give to the lazy, the indolent, the sluggish. In its compensation the world is reciprocal—it pays back, on the average, just about what the individual contributes, sometimes rewarding meritorious effort generously. Success comes to those only who make good. There is natural law in the business world, and obedience to that law is as essential as observance of civil law if there is to be individual prosperity. Certain it is that for violation of all law there is penalty which is sometimes severe.

Nor is there any excuse for failure to do one's part because of the apparent prosperity of others at his expense. Human experience has shown that a part of society cannot long prosper at the expense of the whole, and that a part cannot long prosper at the expense of another part. This experience has also accorded with natural law which rules on the principle of general averages. In spite of many apparent exceptions. The second great mistake lies in arguing from exceptions a mistake which is always productive of erroneous conclusions. Exceptions but make good the rule which only can be the basis of reason which in turn, if good, excludes exceptions. Sound reasoning demands legitimate excuse which cannot be found in individual failure.

Therefore, the new year with all its opportunities appeals to you. It places responsibility on you. Its message is "It's up to you." If 1914 shall prove a year of prosperity to you, it is because you will have merited success; if, on the other hand, 1914 shall have proved a year of failure, you will have, in some measure, at least, been responsible. As with the individual, so with the nation.

Let the cynics say what they will, there's logic in the joy the world finds in New Year's. One day may be much like another, but "every day is a fresh beginning." The years come and go, bearing nearly the same freight of sorrow and failure and bitter disappointment, but always hope feels the thrill and uplift of a new chance for humanity, at the turn of the year, and all that makes life worth while is touched by hope's magic.

New Year's comes with the increase of light and the slow retreat of dark-

ness, in the northern half of the earth. It tells of another spring approaching, and who knows but it will prove the most perfect spring the world has ever seen? And there is another summer beyond which may be the ideal season, neither too hot nor chilly, free from drought and excess of rain—just what summer ought to be.

And with nature's new opportunity to fulfill the hopes of men and women comes one more chance for them, one more great division of time, which is the measure of life. They meet and greet it in joy because it is unspoiled, unmarred, altogether clean and open for a fairer and higher record than they have ever lived into any twelve-month gone by.

What if the hope of such advancement fails of realization, in the larger sense, and with few exceptions grows feeble and dimmer until it dies when the new year has grown old? There are exceptions, and they are beacons lighted for the guidance of humanity on its upward way. In the glow of these triumphs of high endeavor which enable us all to keep our dreams alive, the world discovers foothold for its climbing steps.

All this reasonableness of New Year's hopes and joys, this consciousness which is felt rather than reasoned, of the infinite possibilities of life, is especially easy and natural in America. Here the balance between good fortune and ill inclines most often to the side of joy. Here the opportunities which minister to hope are easiest to find and seize.

Always and everywhere, if mankind is not to slip back into the mire of utter ignorance and bestiality from which the race emerged before history began, there must be visions of better things in the future than the past has given. Such pictures call to the savage in his hut and the barbarian in his tent. Without hope the inner life of the world would faint and die. "Where there is no vision the people perish."

But in America these stirrings of the vital force which urges man upward and onward, despite unnumbered failures and losses, leap in the heart with new strength. The hope in the soul is in harmony with the environment of the race. Optimism is native to the soil. The continent spreads wide the fields of opportunity.

Never was the uplift and joy of the new year's coming more reasonable than it is today. Never was the outlook fairer for the progress of the nation and the world, in thought, character and deed. The old earth begins its wisest year, its richest, its best.

The close of the year brings with it a mingled feeling of gladness and melancholy—of gladness in the anticipation of brighter days to come with the advent of the new year and of melancholy in reflections on the fleeting nature of time, and the gradual approach of the inevitable goal in the race of life.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.  
That so interesting an occasion as

the departing of the old and the ushering in of a new year should be distinguished by some observance or ceremony appears but natural, and we accordingly find various customs prevail in different parts of the country and of the world. Some are of a sportive character, others serious, and in others both mirthful and pensive moods are intermingled.

One of the best-known and most general of these customs is that of remaining up till 12 o'clock on the night of December 31, either in the home, where a little family party may be gathered; in the church, where religious "watch-night" service is held; or on the street, where promenaders make merry.

In no place in the world is the celebration of New Year's eve made so much account as in Philadelphia. In a great measure this is due to the fact that it is the "Cradle of Liberty" of the country, and the bell on Independence hall is used to announce the age of the republic with the dawning of the new year. Thousands of people congregate about Independence hall, and when the clock points to midnight and the bell begins to toll off the years, pandemonium is let loose with the firing of small arms, the tooting of horns and noises of all characters. The celebration is carried along all the thoroughfares in the heart of the city, and especially around the large public buildings, which are elaborately illuminated.

New Year's eve is a favorite occasion for social gatherings in Scotland and the north of England, and when the eventful hour has struck the guests all proceed to the house door and unbar it with great formality to "let out the old and let in the new year."

The making of good resolutions with the dawning of the new year is a very old custom, and one which has no doubt been followed with much profit. It affords a splendid opportunity to lay aside futile reflections on past imprudence and mismanagement, and to resolve for the future to do our utmost in fulfilling our duty to God and our fellow-men.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.

Millions of Mohammedans. Only 13 centuries have passed since the death of Mohammed and today there are 225,000,000 Mohammedans, one-seventh of the population of the globe. There are 50,000,000 in Africa, 62,000,000 in India, 30,000,000 in China, 29,000,000 in the Malay Archipelago and 250,000 in the Philippines, not to speak of the lands that are almost wholly Mohammedan in western Asia. A recent writer said: "What fires of faith and devotion must have burned in the hearts of the early champions of Islam to make them gird on the sword and fight and die for the new religion. It swept across Syria and all north Africa like the desert simoon—swift, fierce, impetuous, irresistible, destructive—only to be curbed and cooled by the waves of the Atlantic."

retired for the night when the husband felt a peculiar scratching on his arm as if some one were tugging at him.

A lamp was lighted and the room examined for a possible intruder. The Kemmerers retired again, satisfied that there was no burglar in the room; but a vicious bite on his arm caused the husband to jump out of bed a second time.

Investigation disclosed a rat in the bed. While Mrs. Kemmerer, nearly dead from fright, huddled in a corner

## INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 28.

A DAY OF DECISION.  
(Review.)

READING LESSON—Joshua 24; Heb. 11:23-31.  
GOLDEN TEXT—"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

The lessons for this past quarter, omitting the temperance lesson, cover one of the most interesting periods in the history of Israel. In them there is presented five of Israel's greatest characters, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, Joshua and Caleb; one of the strangest characters in all history—Baalim; and the typical troublemaker of the nation, Achan. We have presented the strength and weakness, victory and defeat, of four, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, and Joshua.

Israel's History. The first of the scripture passages presented for the day's reading lesson contains the farewell discourse of Joshua. In it he surveys Israel's history from the days of Terah to the moment they possessed Canaan, emphasizing that in it all God was directing and operating. He then appeals to them to serve Jehovah and to put away all other Gods. The alternative is, that with such evidence before their eyes, if it seemed evil to serve Jehovah, they had choice between the gods their fathers abandoned beyond the river and those they had found in the land. As for himself his choice was made, "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." After repeated declarations of fealty on their part Joshua, entered into a covenant with them that they were to serve Jehovah. The passage taken from Hebrews ought to begin at verse thirty.

Moses leads out of Egypt (a type of sin), through the wilderness experiences, but could not lead them into the land; Joshua took up the work where Moses left off and led them into the promised possession; but he was not able to lead them into that perfect rest which only comes from a perfect conformity to the will of God. The message of the Book of Hebrews is that of the son who fulfills all that these great leaders of the past failed to do. He leads from bondage into possession and on to the final rest which remains for the people of God.

Recapitulation. Omitting the temperance lesson (Nov. 9) six of these lessons deal with Moses as the leader, and in five we have Joshua as the leader of Israel.

I. Under Moses' Leadership. Lesson I. Moses' Cry for Help, Num. 11:10-18, 24, 25. (1) Complaint and controversy, vv. 10-15; (2) Comfort and Counsel, vv. 16-18, 24, 25.

Lesson II. Jealousy and Envy Unleashed, Num. ch. 12. (1) The Accusation, vv. 1, 2; (2) The Arrest, vv. 4, 5; (3) The Arraignment, vv. 6-8; (4) The Judgment, vv. 9-10; (5) The Intercession, vv. 11-12.

Lesson III. The Report of the Spies, Num. 13:1-3, 25-33. (1) The Spies, vv. 1-3; (2) The Majority Report, vv. 25-29; (3) The Minority Report, vv. 30-33; (4) The Sequel, ch. 14.

Lesson IV. The Sin of Moses and Aaron, Num. 20:1-13. (1) The People's Petition, vv. 1-5; (2) God's Plan, vv. 6-8; (3) Moses' Mistake, vv. 9-13. (a) Deception, (b) Pride, (c) Self-glory, (d) Disobedience.

Lesson V. Balak and Balaam, Num. 22:1-6, 24:10-19. (1) The Call to Curse, 22:1-6; (2) The Wayside Challenge, 22:22-35; (3) The Changeless Message, ch. 24.

Lesson VI. Temperance Lesson. Lesson VII. The Death of Moses, Deut. 34:1-12. (1) The Old Leader, vv. 1-8; (2) The New Leader, v. 9; (3) A Great Character, vv. 10-12.

II. Under Joshua's Leadership. Lesson VIII. Joshua the New Leader, Josh. 1:1-9. (1) The Call; (2) The Charge; (3) The Counsel; (4) The Companionship.

Lesson IX. Crossing the Jordan, Josh. 3:7-17. (1) The Leader, vv. 7, 8; (2) Those Led, vv. 9-13; (3) The Dry Ground, vv. 14-17.

Lesson X. The Fall of Jericho, Josh. 6:8-11, 14-20. (1) God's Orders, vv. 1-5; (2) Joshua's Instructions, vv. 6-8; (3) The Obedient People, vv. 9-16.

Lesson XI. The Sin of Achan, Josh. 7:6-15. (1) Joshua's Error, vv. 6-9; (2) The Cause of Defeat, vv. 10-12; (3) The Victory of Defeat, vv. 13-15.

Lesson XII. The Division of the Land, Josh. 14:1-14. (1) Those Left Behind, vv. 1-5; (2) Caleb's Claim, vv. 6-12; (3) The Promise Fulfilled, vv. 13-15.

The golden text is peculiarly significant in its fitness as we close the studies for this year. The final word, the fruit and flower of this new nation, is epitomized in this the simplest, yet the most sublime language of the New Testament. What Moses and Joshua did in type and what they each left not being able to accomplish, God in the person of his greatest gift to men can and does fulfill in abundant measure. The widest stretch of human imagination cannot measure the breadth of his love. The deepest depths cannot fathom the awful woe of unbelief.

## Testimonial From High Authority

Mrs. Betty Lyler Wilson  
(of Nashville, Tenn.)

Famous For Her Cakes Recommends

Mrs. Wilson of Nashville, Tenn., is famed the world over for her wonderfully delicious cakes. They are shipped to all parts of the Globe for special affairs where the best of Cakes are demanded.

This year, as in former years, Mrs. Wilson enjoys the distinction of making the President's Christmas Cake, using Calumet Baking Powder.

Mrs. Wilson's Baking Motto is: "To have complete success with no failures, care should be used in selection of Baking Powder."

## CALUMET BAKING POWDER

Some little time ago I made a careful study and investigation of the baking powder subject and I feel fully repaid. I am firmly convinced from the results I have received that there is no baking powder to equal Calumet for wholesomeness and economy, and I also recommend Calumet Baking Powder for its never failing results.

December 8, 1913. Mrs. Betty Lyler Wilson.

Calumet also received the Highest Awards at the World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago and Paris, France, 1912.

Buy a can of Calumet Baking Powder at once, and use it in your Holiday Baking, making your Christmas Cakes as good as the President's.

## USE A "BLUFF" TO IMPRESS

Some Cases of Deception That Have Come Under the Observation of Group of Bankers.

A group of bankers met for their daily lunch at a club restaurant where it was their habit to discuss various problems. This time the conversation drifted toward the various modes of deception practiced by people. One member related how, among his acquaintances there were five who owned pianos but not one could play. These friends, he stated, were in but fair circumstances, and to his thinking it was folly to invest merely for the sake of appearances. Another member of the party stated that he knew a family where they had five shelves for the fake books to enlarge the library so that it would have an impressive appearance. Glass doors covered the shelves, and whenever a visitor expressed a desire to consult any particular book the key to the doors could not be found. Each banker seemed to have some story to tell; even "Silent Clarke," as one of the members was known, because of the few stories he told startled them all by reciting the methods employed by a man he knew whose desire was to impress everyone that he was rich. "Why!" he said, "that man was so crazy to show off that he blacked himself each morning and washed the windows to make people think he could afford a negro servant."—National Weekly.

Clean Fake. "It's almost impossible to believe some of the things you read in the newspapers nowadays."

"What have you run across now?" "This half-column article about a city-bred girl yanking off her petticoat and stopping a cannon ball express from dashing into an open switch."

Favorite Fiction. "The Science of Palmistry." "It will be the Least Bit Out of My Way, I Assure You." "The Bed Was Very Comfortable, Mrs. Irons; I Slept Like a Top." "Reformed Spelling." "Your Esteemed Favor of Yesterday." "I Never Felt Better in My Life." "Why, Father, I Don't Know One Card from Another!" "If I Thought It Was Doing Me the Least Harm I'd Quit It in a Minute."

His Solution. Mrs. Vanshook (at the children's party)—I declare, little girls and boys of twelve stay up half the night, nowadays! Mr. Newlyblest (absently)—I suppose they acquire the habit while they are babies.—Puck.

A Princely Gift. "There are not many great philanthropists." "I heard of one the other day." "What did he do?" "He gave away a pass to the world's series."

Matchless. "And what became of that girl who was such a matchless beauty in our set when I went away?" "She still is." "What after all these years?" "Not so much of a beauty, but still matchless. She's an old maid."

Usual Distinction. Young Wife—That pudding I have just made for you is a poem. Hubby—And I suppose I'm to be the waste-basket.—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

## Lawyer Scored on Judge.

Lord Mansfield received a hard setting down from Thomas Erskine. The latter was arguing a case before the house of lords—a Scottish appeal relating to a test estate. In the course of his argument he had frequent occasion to use the word "curator," always pronouncing it in the manner approved in the Scottish courts; that is, with the accent on the first syllable.

This grated upon the ears of Lord Mansfield, who, though a Scotsman by birth, had taken pains to become Anglicized. At last he broke out: "Mr. Erskine, we are in the habit in this country of saying curator, following the analogy of the Latin, in which, as you are doubtless aware, the penultimate syllable is long." "I thank your lordship very much," returned Erskine. "We are weak enough in Scotland to think that in pronouncing the word curator we are following the analogy of the English language; but I need scarcely say that I bow with pleasure to the opinion of so learned a senator and so great an orator as your lordship."—William S. Walsh, in the Sunday Magazine of the Chicago Record-Herald.

Go Ahead, Jimmy. "And remember, Johnny Binks," said the teacher, who was endeavoring to drive a moral precept into Johnny's head, "there is always plenty of room at the top." "I guess you got that a little wrong, teacher," said Johnny, whose father is a street-car conductor. "Plenty of room up front," is the way my pa says it."

Got Mixed. "What sort of a proposal do you suppose that business admirer of hers made Gladys?" "What was it?" "I suppose he was negotiating for some real estate at the same time, for he asked her to give him the refusal of her hand."

He Was Having It. Stubb—That's a witty Britisher. While he was sitting on the park bench some mischievous boys filled it with wax and his coat tails adhered as if they had been cemented. Penn—Great joke! What did he say when he arose? Stubb—Why, that well-known British expression: "I'm having a ripping time."

She Didn't Understand. "See here," said his wife; "I hear you acted scandalous on that trip with those Knights of Sparta." "Me? How's that?"

"Mr. Wombat says you posed as the leanak Walton of the party. What do you mean by going around under an assumed name?"

No. "It seems strange to think that one little word from you will make me happy for life!" "Yes. But there's another little word the saying of which will keep me from being miserable for life. I am just selfish enough to say that one."

A Gentle Knock. "That girl has pretty hair," remarked the young man. "Yes," said the damsel he was with, "and she has some at home that is even prettier."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

A Bigger Contract. "So you think you can support my daughter?" "I think so." "And can you support her French maid, her two poodles and her pet monkey?"

## ATTACKED IN BED BY RAT

Fierce Fight Before Rodent Could Be Destroyed, and Man Is Severely Bitten.

A monster rat, which had gained entrance into his bedroom through an open window during the day, savagely attacked and bit Russell Kemmerer, of Pennsburg, and it took half an hour of furious fighting to dispatch the vicious rodent in bed.

Mr. and Mrs. Kemmerer had hardly